

**Sunday 16 August 2026**

*Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)*

**First Reading - *Isaiah 56.6-7***

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

People of every nation

will come

to love and serve the Lord.

They will keep the sabbath,

and trust

in the Lord's covenant.

And I will welcome them,

here on my holy mountain,

says the Lord;

and they will be joyful

in my house of prayer.

Their offerings and sacrifices

will be accepted

on my altar.

And my house will be called

a house of prayer

for all nations.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Second Reading - *Romans 12.1-2***

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I appeal to you,

brothers and sisters,

as your response

to God's great mercy,

to present your bodies

as a living sacrifice,

holy and acceptable to God.

Do not be

conformed

to the ways

of this world,

but be transformed,

by the renewing of your minds,

towards

the perfect

will of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Gospel - *Matthew 15.21-28***

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

Jesus went north

from Galilee

to the coastal districts of Lebanon.

A woman

from that region, who was not

a Hebrew,

approached Jesus,

saying, 'Have mercy on me,

Lord, Son of David,

for my daughter

is tormented

by a demon.'

But Jesus

did not answer her.

And his disciples said to him, 'Send her away,  
for she keeps  
shouting after us.'

So Jesus said to her,

'I was

sent

only

to the lost sheep

amongst the Hebrew people.'

But she knelt before him,

saying, 'Lord, help me.'

Jesus said to her, 'It is not right

to take food

away

from the children.'

She said, 'Yes, Lord,

but surely

there will be

crumbs

that fall

from the table.'

Jesus now turned to her,

and said, 'You have great faith.

Let it be done for you

as you request.'

And at that very moment,

her daughter

was healed.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.